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DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO P, EUR, NEA, PM, IO, NSC

E.O. 12958: DECL: 08/15/2016

TAGS: <u>LE MARR MOPS PREL</u>

SUBJECT: URGENT DEMARCHE: SOLICITING CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNIFIL

REF: SECSTATE 134133

Classified By: A/DCM JOSEPH Y. YUN. REASONS 1.4 (b), (d).

11. (C) In response to reftel, A/DCM and POL-MIL Chief met with North American Affairs Bureau Director General Cho Taeyong on August 16, 2006 and urged the South Korean government to make a contribution to the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) in support of UNSC 1701. DG Cho, noting that South Korea had a long history of contributing toward UN peacekeeping missions, said he fully understood both the importance and urgency of this request and said he would discuss the possibility of South Korea sending troops to Lebanon with his superiors in the ROK government. Embassy will follow-up and report on the ROKG response as soon as that decision is made.